

# The Washington Times

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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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The Times.....43,765  
The Star.....34,386

## THE DISTRICT BUDGET UNDER THE NEW LAW.

Under a law which is in force for the first time in the history of the District, the estimates which the Commissioners are to submit to Congress will come within the revenues of the local government. In recent years the Commissioners have been sending to Congress a budget which bore no relation to the municipal receipts. It aggregated sometimes as high as \$15,000,000 or \$16,000,000, and upon the long-suffering committees which handle District appropriations was placed the burden and responsibility of bringing the figures within a reasonable total. It seems as if Congress has grown tired of this unnecessary and irksome labor and has placed upon the Commissioners the duty of selecting the items for which provision is imperatively required. We are inclined to the belief that Congress was justified in its action. At any rate, we may be sure that the Commissioners have this year been compelled to exercise some discretion and discrimination. They must begin to appreciate the burden which they have hitherto foisted upon Congress. Above all, the day has gone when they can incorporate every idealistic scheme into the District estimates, no matter what expense is entailed, and then point the finger of blame to the Congressional committees for not opening up the United States Treasury to put the projects into execution.

It is a wise provision, also, which keeps the estimates within the revenues. The time has come when the lavish expenditures which have imposed a debt of several million dollars upon the District may well cease. The revenues of the local government now aggregate over \$6,000,000, thus affording under the half-and-half arrangement with the United States an expendable fund of \$12,000,000. Even when from this total is deducted the \$950,000 which is annually paid upon the old Shepherd debt and the \$500,000 which Congress appropriates outside of the District bill, there still remains some \$11,000,000. There are few, if any, cities of the size of Washington which have anything like this well-filled exchequer. Milwaukee manages to maintain an enviable position on \$9,000,000, Louisville exists on \$7,000,000, and San Francisco on \$13,000,000.

There is no reason under the sun why Washington should not develop and progress with \$11,000,000 available for its uses. It is equally certain that a wise and economical administration will provide for all legitimate functions of city government and leave a surplus for investment in permanent improvements. Washington ought to present the spectacle of a city entirely free from debt. It is a model city in many respects. If the burden of debt which has been laid upon it can be lifted and if, in the future, it can be managed without incurring additional obligation, it will be the envy of every municipality in the country.

We hope that the Commissioners will realize the necessity of keeping good faith with the United States and take some steps toward returning the vast sums which the General Government has generously advanced. If they will do this Congress will look with greater favor upon the District and its government. More than this, the extinguishment of the debt will all the more speedily bring us to a period when the sums now required to meet our obligations can be devoted to the great enterprises which yet remain to be achieved.

## CAPTAIN BUTT'S THEORY ABOUT YOSEMITE.

It is noted with some regret that Capt. Archibald Willingham de Graffenreid Butt, military aide to the President, has been responsible for the initiation of a controversy which may prove unfortunate for the Administration. Captain Butt has not heretofore deviated from the rule of extreme caution about involving himself and his chief in discussions which might develop sharp differences of opinion.

The President's party was viewing the wonders of Yosemite. The Bridal Veil, Lookout Point, El Capitan, the Half Dome, and the rest of the wonders had given thrill even to the stoic soul of the military man; and in a moment of rapt admiration he exclaimed: "Something caused it!"

Seemingly safe and sane conclusion, yet fraught with possibility of controversy most unfortunate. For John

Muir, the naturalist, had just explained the glacial origin of these mighty works; and as between the two, the President accepted the diagnosis of Mr. Muir.

For our own part, we feel that this opens the way to possibilities of grave dissension. There can be no reasonable doubt that Captain Butt was right. Something caused it. It was a masterful generalization, hardly subject to effective criticism. Anything is something, whether it be a glacier or a comet or a brick mason or a flying machine. Captain Butt was right for sure; Mr. Muir maybe was right, and then maybe he wasn't. Lots of people who don't know much about geology and strongly suspect it of being heterodox science, may decline to accept the Muir explanation. Nobody could reject that of Captain Butt.

Vastly better that such a discussion had never been opened. If Captain Butt had restrained himself, the observation of Mr. Muir might have passed unnoticed. As it is, the President has committed himself to the glacier theory, and if it gets him into trouble he will have to blame Captain Butt for starting the controversy.

There is possibility of blaming Mr. Muir for going into details; but as the subject was not military, Captain Butt is fairly to be regarded as culpable. He shouldn't have undertaken to define an Administration policy entirely outside his sphere of influence. Having done so, and thereby started a controversy, he must take the consequences.

## JEROME AGAIN AS AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE.

The gaiety of the New York political situation is greatly enhanced by the independent candidacy of Mr. Jerome for district attorney. He has been nominated by a petition signed by 13,000 voters.

With backing of this kind, Jerome may be expected to cut a real figure in the race, even if he is not endorsed by any party. He was elected before on an independent ticket, although under quite different conditions. Then his candidacy appealed to the people of the whole country as a protest against bossism. Notwithstanding that he was the choice of a great majority of the people of New York for district attorney, the bosses refused to nominate him. The question presented to the people at that time was, therefore, whether the machine could deliberately defy the popular will by refusing to nominate the man it had manifested its desire to vote for.

The situation is different now. For one thing, there is honest difference of opinion as to whether Jerome has "made good" in office. Moreover, the bosses are not acting in a high-handed manner now. They are perfectly willing to listen to a popular demand in return for popular support. There will be strong opposition candidates in the field, so that Jerome's way will not be nearly as easy going as it was before. But that he will add to the picturesque quality of the election is already made clear by his first manifesto, in which he denounces Murphy and Cohan and speaks of Judge Gaynor as a "political charlatan, shown in the past to be totally destitute of political courage, and whose crass ability is tinged with a morbidness which is almost akin to mental unsoundness."

The district attorney is about the best campaigner in New York when he gets started, and from the way he is beginning it is plain he does not intend to let the grass grow under his feet.

## MRS. RUTH BRYAN LEAVITT OUT FOR CONGRESS.

A vast deal has been said of late about the overthrow of the old Republican machine in the House, the reform of the House rules and the deposing of "Uncle Joe." It has been pointed out that there would be a deep undercurrent of dissatisfaction in the House the coming winter and that the revelations made by Herbert Parsons concerning an alleged unholy alliance between the House organization and Tammany would stir public disgust. Speaker Cannon, however, has continued to breast the storm and bid defiance to his enemies.

But now there comes out of Colorado an announcement likely to make "Uncle Joe's" feathers droop and make him take in alarm to the tall timber. It is that Mrs. Ruth Bryan Leavitt, daughter of William Jennings Bryan, will run for Congress in the First Colorado district. She will have the support of the Jane Jefferson Club, of former Senator Patterson and his newspapers and of the prestige of her father. Some few mutterings of dissatisfaction are heard among the older members of the Jane Jefferson Club, who think Ruth is not a sufficiently seasoned stateswoman, but these can be calmed down no doubt by promises of patronage, garden and flower seeds, and those other offerings with aid of which politicians know so well how to soothe the discontented. Mrs. Leavitt believes she will win.

It is easy to see that the advent of a single woman, especially a young and attractive one, into the House, would do more to make trouble for the regime of "Uncle Joe" than scores of insurgents. It would upset the old order of things completely. The Speaker is a gallant and chivalrous personage of the old school so far as the ladies are concerned, despite the harsh ways of which he is accused toward some men. Suppose a rule was laid down by Dalzell, Smith, et al., limiting debate, and Mrs.

Leavitt should choose to ignore it and go on talking ad libitum, with the eloquence of her distinguished father. How would the Speaker stop her? He could not order the sergeant-at-arms to take down the mace, as he did in the famous collision with John Wesley Gaines of Tennessee. He could not order the Capitol police to throw her out after the English manner of treating a suffragette. In fact, "Uncle Joe" would simply be "up against it." The young woman member of Congress could go on talking indefinitely and the House would sustain her in it. She might bring on a revolution against the rules, but who would venture to halt her? This would be but one of a number of embarrassments consequent on the election of a young woman to Congress.

If "Uncle Joe" is awake to the real danger he is in, he will turn the Republican Congressional committee with its barrel loose in the First Colorado district and have some harmless man elected.

## IMPRESSIONS OF WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS.

Seldom it is that William Dean Howells grants an interview, but the other day he consented to air his views on several matters. It must be admitted that this leader among American literary lights talked entertainingly. Some there are who will not agree with all his views, perhaps, but they are views worth considering. For instance, Mr. Howells sees nothing dreadful in the proposed English budget. He says it is simply a matter of taxing "those dukes and belted earls who have never paid their share of the taxes before."

Mr. Howells says he doesn't see how the budget can fail to win. He points out that the average American, being a democrat, is for pulling down the dukes, unless married to one. He adds the interesting observation that "we are building up quite a dual party over here." A good many thinking folks have had something of the sort in mind of late.

Coming to socialism, Mr. Howells refuses to be frightened by it. He says quite two-thirds of the voters in Germany are socialists, that the socialists contemplate nothing in the way of violence and there is nothing violent in their program.

As to women suffrage, he is for it. He says: "I never heard any reason why women should not vote. I have heard of pleas why they should not but no reasons."

He declares the violence of the suffragettes has forced the suffrage movement forward in England. He thinks the government has made a mistake in treating the arrested suffragettes as criminal prisoners instead of political ones, and that certain of this treatment has been outrageous. Women in England will have the ballot, is his opinion.

Mr. Howells is said to entertain the view that nothing he can say in an interview will entertain the public, but he is mistaken. He should give us the benefit of his observations at frequent intervals.

Congratulations are in order for our esteemed contemporary, the Washington Herald, on the occasion of its third anniversary. It is to be hoped that its future will be as successful as its brief but brilliant past.

The Rhode Island Democratic convention expresses the opinion that Senator Aldrich could not be returned to the Senate by a direct vote of the people. That is not news, even to the Senator himself.

If Ruth Bryan Leavitt is as consistent a loser as her distinguished father no one will object to her running for Congress as often as she likes.

Chicago University students are kicking because they are asked to pay more than 20 cents for sirloin steak with mushrooms. Exclamation marks! If that price prevailed throughout the country boarding houses would lose one of their most animated topics.

A 10 per cent cut in the salaries of the employees of the city of Chicago should give food for thought to a few other municipalities which are struggling along with padded payrolls.

## Anent Cook and Peary

Now, if you'll spell Etah backwards, you'll see that it seems to throw a little light on the current controversy.—Newark News.

Harry Whitney will soon arrive, and then all will be ready for the polar mail to be fought for. If Evans Tumbo were only here—Portland Journal.

When Mr. Taft descended 1,200 feet into the earth recently, he was probably trying to get as far away from the North Pole as possible.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Why did Peary nail a flag of peace up there? Funny; but he says he did.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

## CONCERT BY THE SOLDIERS' HOME BAND

THIS AFTERNOON AT 4 O'CLOCK.

John S. M. Zimmermann, Director.

## PROGRAM

March—"Blenderhasset"—Arnold Fantasia—"Reminiscences of All Nations"—Godfrey Song for Cornet—"The Rosary."

Nervin Frank Barnard (Request) Grand Selection—"Maritana"—Wallace Song Without Words—"The Spring Song" (request)—Mendelssohn Excerpts from "The Three Twins"—Moschna Value Di Concert—"Invitation to the Dance"—Von Weber—Finale—"The Victor"—Proctor.

# WILL RETURN TO CAPITAL AFTER VISITING NEW YORK CELEBRATION.

Mrs. Titian J. Coffey and her grand-daughters, Miss Lillian and Miss Lillian Chew, will return to Washington tomorrow from New York, where they attended the Hudson-Fulton celebration, after spending the summer at the Virginia Hot Springs.

The engagement of Miss Lillian Chew to J. Upshur Moorhead, has just recently been announced, and the wedding will probably be an event of the early winter.

Mr. and Mrs. John Frederick Leech and their daughter, Miss Katherine Leech, have returned to Washington and opened their Massachusetts avenue residence for the winter, after spending the summer at Newport.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sidney Webb are expected to return to Washington from Europe after the middle of the month.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Downing and the Misses Downing have returned to Washington from Narragansett Pier, where they had a cottage for the summer.

Miss Marjorie Alshire has returned to Washington from Bryn Mawr, where she spent a few days this week.

## Williamson-Meding.

Announcement is made of the marriage of Mrs. Anna Steinberg Meding and Charles J. Williamson. The ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Walter Ratcliffe, took place Wednesday afternoon, October 5, at 5 o'clock, at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Only the family and a few intimate friends were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson left immediately after the ceremony for an extended Northern trip. Upon their return they will reside at 2016 Connecticut avenue, where they will be at home after November 15.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Blizard, whose marriage took place Wednesday in Baltimore, are spending a few days in Atlantic City.

Mrs. J. H. Junghans, her daughter, Miss Nellie Junghans, her son, Joseph Junghans, and her sister, Miss Anna B. Mares, have returned to Washington after an extended sojourn in Canada.

Mrs. Joseph Crawford, who is spending the autumn at the Virginia Hot Springs, entertained at tea at the Oaks yesterday, in honor of her daughter, Miss Cary Crawford.

Mrs. Frederic Hudekoper, of Washington, who has been abroad all summer, arrived in New York yesterday, on the Adriatic.

## Return to Washington.

Mrs. Clarence Moore, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Frances Moore, has joined Mr. Moore at their Washington residence for a few days. They will return to Prides Crossing, Mass., soon, to remain until late in the autumn. Mrs. George Howard and her small daughter, Miss Margaret Perrin, who were the guests of Mrs. Moore at Swiftmore last week, accompanied Mrs. Moore to Washington.

Mrs. Samuel Whitteide, of the Farragut, has as her guest her daughter, Mrs. Archibald Miller, wife of Lieutenant Miller, U. S. A., and her little son.

# TENNESSEE POLITICS IN A QUEER MUDDLE

Both Democratic and Republican Parties in State Split Over Question of Direct Primaries and Prohibition. Secretaries Hitchcock and Dickinson Take Sides.

With the Republican and Democratic parties in Tennessee each split into two factions, the political situation is that State today presents stranger aspects in many respects than any other in the country.

It involves the question of State-wide prohibition and the direct primary. Washington is brought into close relation to the situation from the fact that within the highest circles of the President's official family support is going out to each of the Republican factions.

Postmaster General Hitchcock is lending his backing to one element—that part of the party which favors State-wide prohibition. Secretary Dickinson's sympathies, if not his active efforts, lie in the direction of the other faction.

Involved in the year-up is the fate of Senator James B. Frazier, who has a hard fight on over his re-election. Senator Taylor is watching developments with an anxious eye, for Governor M. R. Patterson is on his trail and two years from now plans to run for Senator against "Fiddling Bob."

The question whether Tennessee is to remain in control of an old and conservative machine or to get into the hands of a newer and more progressive State-wide prohibition at stake. Much talk is heard of the Republicans profiting by the dissensions among the Democrats and carrying the State, but the facts are that the Republicans are as badly divided as the Democrats and there seems little to warrant G. O. P. hopes of success.

Considering the Democrats, one faction of the party is headed by Governor Patterson, the other by George C. Carmaek, both of whom are known as "State-widens." The "State-widens" are in favor of general prohibition, for a direct primary, and for reformed election laws.

On April 10 the State-wide primary will be held by the State-widens and nominees selected for Senator, governor, and members of Congress, as well as for various State offices. The Patterson crowd denies the constitutionality of the primary law and will nominate by convention.

Exactly the same situation prevails among the Republicans. The faction headed by Representative Brownlow is supporting the same things as the Patterson wing of the Democratic party. The Hitchcock friends favor the State-widens.

The fact that two sets of nominations will be made under the primary and two sets by the old convention system means all sorts of trouble and legal complications. It is probable that the coming convention of the State will decide before April 10 whether the primary law is constitutional. In that case, the Patterson faction will take a stand for prohibition, but for the repeal of the law against manufacturing and for the repeal of the primary law.

It is possible that Patterson if returned as governor may resign if conditions favor it and have himself sent to the Senate in the place of Frazier.

John Barrymore is carrying the acting honors for his family, now that Ethel Barrymore is in the State. Miss Barrymore will be seen in a Pinner play early in the new year. John is playing the title role in Winchell Smith's "The Fortune Hunter."

Charles Walcott, the "grand old man of the stage," who is appearing this season in support of Hen-jetta Crossman in "Sham," recently celebrated the fifty-first anniversary of his first appearance as an actor. His first role was in Sheridan Knowles' tragedy, "Pizzaro," or the Conqueror of Peru. Desiring, since that time he has supported many stars of note on the American stage, from Laura Keane, Edward Forrest, and Charlotte Cushman to those of the present day.

Frank Daniels and De Wolfe Hopper have organized a Long Island realty company.

The fact that Marguerite Clarke played "Peter Pan" in stock in St. Louis the past summer is said to have won for her an acting part. This she will have in Owen Davis' "The Wishing Ring." Rehearsals are already under way.

## Coming President



ROBERT COMTESSE Will Succeed Dr. Deucher As Head of Switzerland.

Robert Comtesse, Vice President of Switzerland, will be the next President and will succeed Dr. Deucher January 1, 1910, unless all precedent is set aside. It is the general rule in Switzerland to elect the Vice President to succeed the retiring President. The President is elected for one year only and is not eligible for re-election until a full twelve months shall intervene after leaving office. He received a salary of a little less than \$3,000.

# VALOR OF GREGORS REVIVED BY CLAN

American Branch of Organization Formed at Meeting Here.

Memories of the deeds of valor and daring of those ancient days when the "Clan Gregor" ruled the highlands of Scotland were revived today when two score or more of men and women through whose veins course this honorable blood gathered at the National Hotel, pledged undying fealty to their race, and formed the permanent American branch of Clan Gregor.

Dr. E. M. Magruder, of Charlottesville, Va., as temporary chief, welcomed the assembled clansmen, following a prayer by the Rev. Ivan M. Green, of Clifton Forge, Va. Dr. Magruder, preface his address with a tribute to the sons and daughters of Bonnie Scotland as pillars of honor and as creators of a great country on the globe, told of the origin and purpose of the move to perpetuate the fame of the Gregor Clan. He also suggested that Washington be selected as the future rendezvous of the annual clan gatherings, but this will be settled later when all the clansmen have had their say.

After a general discussion as to the forms of organization, Major Edward Magruder, Turville, of Birmingham, Ala., delivered a "Sketch of Clan Gregor." "The Gregories of Virginia" was the subject of a talk by George C. Gregory, of Richmond, Va., and other addresses following were "The Magraders in Scotland and America," by Henry and divorcee Gregory of this country. "Alexander MacGruther and the Clan Gregor in America," by John Read Magruder, of Annapolis, Md., and "Magruder, Willis O. Prince George and Montgomery counties, Md.," by Caleb C. Magruder, Jr., of Washington. Tonight there will be an informal social gathering.

# NUMBER OF DIVORCES RAPIDLY INCREASES

Census Bureau Report Shows That the Evil Grows Constantly.

That the number of divorces obtained in this country is rapidly increasing is the conclusion reached by the Census Bureau after a careful study of the marriage and divorce statistics of this country. While the marriage figures seem to be governed by economic conditions of the country, divorce seems to depend upon nothing of the sort. There are no determined seasons or eras when divorces are more numerous than at other times. The flow is steady and increasing in volume. When times are hard and the cost of living greatly advanced or were the rates for marriage license and the cost of the marriages decrease in number.

From 1887 to 1906, the number of reported marriages in this country was 12,885,444, while during the same time the divorces amounted to 94,623. For the twenty years previous to 1887, the number of divorces was 22,715.

# ROADS ARE AFTER NARROW ESCAPES FROM EXPLOSION

Several persons narrowly escaped injury when an explosion wrecked a portion of the Home Ice Company's plant, at Thirtieth and M streets northwest, about 2 o'clock last evening. The explosion was caused by the breaking of a piston attached to one of the big ice-making machines, which resulted in the cylinder being blown out. The engine room, which is in the basement, was completely wrecked. The damage amounted to several thousand dollars.

Edward Willis, general manager of the company, and Albert Willis, had left the engine room only about five minutes before the explosion occurred.

Mrs. Edward Willis and her two-year-old baby were in a carriage in the front of the office and a piece of the demolished cylinder struck one of the rear wheels of the vehicle.

## GULF STORM WARNINGS.

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 8.—Another storm warning has been issued by the New Orleans weather bureau. The disturbance is said to be central over the Gulf of Mexico, near the Isle of Pines, moving northwestward. Storm warnings were ordered displayed at Tampa, Key West, Miami, Jupiter, and other points on both the east and west Florida coasts.

# MANY YOUNG TREES PLANTED LAST YEAR

Superintendent of Parking Reports Setting Out of 3,988.

# THIS WORK COSTS DISTRICT \$15,456

Sycamore Used More Than Any Other Variety—Best for Shade.

Washington's reputation as a "City Beautiful" was further enhanced during the last fiscal year by the addition of 3,988 young trees set out in the various thoroughfares.

This number, according to the annual report of Truman Lanham, superintendent of trees and parking, submitted to the Commissioners today, exceeds that of the preceding year by 650, and is largely in excess of the record established in any year since 1887.

The cost of the work, including miscellaneous nursery work, digging of tree holes, etc., was \$15,456.49, an average cost per tree of \$3.88 for labor and \$1.41 for lumber, strap-iron and nails, making the average total cost of individual planting \$5.29. This is an increase in cost of nearly 16 per cent over last year, due according to the report to several causes, the principal one being the increased cost of skilled labor and the large amount of nursery planting done.

Nine hundred and seventy-eight sycamores were planted, the greatest number of any one variety. "The streets of the city planted with sycamores," says Superintendent Lanham, "are among the best shaded, and these trees require less of the many other varieties, which respect they are like the pin, red oak and Norway maple." Forty-four arrests were made by the office during the year for violation of the parks and parking regulations, resulting in the collection of \$31 in fines and forfeited collars.

The trimming of trees involved an expenditure of \$2,660.82. The trimming and repairing of an emergency party, which works all over the city, has been unusually busy, says Mr. Lanham, and in this connection he urges an appropriation for an automobile truck, which, it is declared, would do four times the service of the present horse-drawn vehicle.

Mr. Lanham again urges that his office be designated as the Trees and Parking Division instead of the Parking Commission.

# SCOTTS CELEBRATE 55TH ANNIVERSARY

Many Friends of Aged Couple Tender Congratulations—Bride-maid Is Present.

The fifty-fifth anniversary of their wedding is being quietly celebrated today by Mr. and Mrs. William Scott, of 493 Thistle Island avenue northwest. More than half a century ago the happy couple were united in marriage at the old St. Matthew's Church parsonage, near the corner of Fifteenth and H streets northwest, by the Rev. James B. Donnelly. When the couple were married, Mrs. Elizabeth Draper served the bride as bridesmaid. Today, when many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Scott called to pay their respects and tender congratulations, they also congratulated Mrs. Draper, whom they found in the same place beside the bride, she occupied fifty-five years ago. Today marks not only the wedding of the Government Printing Office Bindery, where he is still employed, and is rated as one of the best workmen in the business.

# CITIZENS ARE AFTER ROADS AND WALKS

People of Alexandria County Meet To Discuss the Matter.

Improvement of the roads and walks was the object of a meeting of the Alexandria County Citizens' Association held last evening at the home of W. H. Wadleigh, Fort Myer Heights. The matter of repairing the walks to the various points in the city has been long considered and subscriptions were received during the evening that insured a beginning of the work which must be done before the cold weather sets in.

The members of the association are a unit in favor of the good roads movement throughout the State and are anxious to see that the county receives its share of the improvements that are to be made.

A new road from the court house to the old Dominion Hotel is expected, the county having already surveyed the route and arranged for the purchase of much of the land that will be necessary for the right of way.

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If your best salesman were lured away from you by a rival, couldn't he "swing" a big slice of his trade with him? He could NOT, if your goods were well known, well established and in wide demand through Advertising.